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RUEKJCS/JOINT STAFF WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE
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E.O. 12958: DECL: 05/31/2027

TAGS: PARM PREL JA CH

SUBJECT: JAPAN'S INITIAL RESPONSE TO DOD CHINA REPORT

REF: SECSTATE 72001

Classified By: Ambassador J. Thomas Schieffer. Reasons: 1.4(b)(d).

(C) The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and other government agencies are still in the process of "reading through very carefully" the Department of Defense Report on China, and "watching very carefully" for China's reaction, according to MOFA China Division Deputy Kazuya Endo. Asked if he had any preliminary comments, Endo noted only that the report's characterization of territorial disputes as a continuing source of tension between Japan and China is at odds with Japan's official position that there are no territorial issues between the two countries. He promised to convey any other concerns at a later date.

SCHIEFFER